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(54) **"BURST-FREE" SUSTAINED RELEASE POLY-(LACTIDE/GLYCOLIDE) MICROSPHERES**

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(*) Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154 (a)(2).

Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 08/590,973, filed on Jan. 24, 1996, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/446,149, filed on May 22, 1995, now abandoned.

(51) **Int. Cl.**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **424/490**; 424/489; 424/491; 424/493; 424/496; 424/501

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 424/489, 424/490, 491, 493, 496, 501
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Novel burst-free, sustained release biocompatible and biodegrable microcapsules which can be programmed to release their active core for variable durations ranging from 1–100 days in an aqueous physiological environment. The microcapsules are comprised of a core of polypeptide or other biologically active agent encapsulated in a matrix of poly (lactide/glycolide) copolymer as a blend of uncapped (free carboxyl end group) and end-capped forms ranging in ratios from 100/0 to 1/99.

4 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets